



Shulamith
school for girls
Brooklyn



5:40 pm הדלקת נרות - Parashat Lech Lecha

Parshat Lech Lecha “Complacency Kills”

וַיֹּאמֶר ה' אֶל־אַבְרָם לֵךְ־לְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ (Hashem said to Avraham. Go for yourself from your land.) Hashem is telling Avraham to pick up everything, cut ties, and go someplace that he will show him. Think about that for a moment. The Midrash tells us that Avraham had just survived being tossed into an oven at Ur Casdin and miraculously survived. Needless to say, Avraham’s street credibility was pretty high at that point. If there was social media at the time, he would have gone viral! It would have been so easy for him there. It was just then that Hashem said, it’s time to go. Time to distance yourself from where you are, however, לֵךְ־לְךָ, you are going for your own benefit. What is that benefit? וְאָנֹכִי לְגֹי גָדוֹל וְאַבְרָכְךָ (I will make you a great nation and I will bless you, I will make your name great and you shall be a blessing.)

Why did Avraham have to leave in order to get this bracha from Hashem? Couldn’t he just have given him the brachos where he was?

Avraham is the living embodiment of emunah and action. Shortly after Hashem told Avraham to leave, he underwent a number of incredibly difficult challenges. Avraham pulled up roots from his home and begins to travel the land of Canaan. He makes multiple stops only to find that there was a famine in the land and was forced to go to Egypt, only to have his wife kidnapped! Avraham gets Sarah back and returns to the land of Canaan. Avraham is then forced to part ways with his nephew, Lot, due to a machloket between Lot and Avraham’s shepherds. This is immediately followed by the second kidnapping in this week’s parsha, the capture of Lot. When Avraham heard of Lot’s capture, he made the decisive decision to go to war to rescue him. All the while, Avraham and Sarah did not yet have a child of their own. There were plenty of opportunities for Avraham to lose his emunah and become complacent, but he didn’t, because he understood that the challenges are for his benefit.

During the US war in Iraq, the US Army placed very visible “Complacency Kills” signs on the gates of the forward operating bases in Iraq. These bases were in very dangerous areas and the soldiers assigned there needed to be constantly on their toes. When soldiers were required to leave the base, this was the last message they saw before their mission. The army realized that the greatest enemy to our troops was complacency... if the soldiers became too comfortable they were much more likely to make mistakes that could cost lives.

What is the lesson of לֵךְ־לְךָ? The lesson is that complacency kills. It kills our potential to become our best selves. Sometimes in life we aren’t in the place that maximizes our potential. We may be in the wrong environment with who we surround ourselves with or the things we are exposed to. It’s so easy to just say that we are good enough where we are, but that couldn’t be further from the truth! In cases like these we need the strength and emunah to לֵךְ־לְךָ, to get up and go make the changes to benefit ourselves and ultimately make us worthy of receiving Hashem’s berachot.

Shabbat Shalom!
Natan Mandelbaum

Marsella Babaisakov– October 30

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| <p><u>30th</u></p> <p>Baked Ziti</p> <p>Plain Pasta</p> <p>Salad</p> <p>Tuna</p> <p>Fruit</p> | <p><u>31st</u></p> <p>Taco Tuesday</p> <p>Yellow Rice</p> <p>Diced Veggies</p> <p>Egg Salad</p> <p>Fresh Fruit</p> |  |
|--|---|---|

Preschool News.....

Dear Parents,

Each week we teach the Parsha so that we can instill in our girls a love of the Torah and an appreciation for the many lessons that the Torah teaches us. In this way your daughters are constantly improving their midot and becoming true **בנות ישראל**.

We discussed how Terach hid his baby, Avram, in a cave and how Avram stayed there until he was three years old. When Avram finally came out of the cave he looked at the world around him. He saw flowers blooming, birds singing, the sun in the day and the moon and stars at night. He realized that neither the sun or the moon had divine powers and so he davened to find out who created this magnificent world. Then the angel Gavriel told him it was Hashem. We read the story “A Little Boy Named Avram” by Dina Rosenfeld which reinforced this point.

We learned that after Avram returned home Terach asked Avram to manage his store which sold statues that people used as idols. Avram proved to the people that the statues were useless.

We then discussed how Hashem told Avram – **לך לך** go from your land, from your birth place and from your father’s house to a land which I’ll show you. We asked the children if they had ever moved. We know that any changes can be hard, especially when you have to leave old friends and make new ones. Avram had faith in Hashem and so he didn’t even question what Hashem had told him. We designed a **תפלת הדרך** for the car and sewed pocket books for the girls “special treasures” when they next go on a family outing.

The girls tried to solve Avram’s problem with **לוט** and the sheep. Avram didn’t want to fight with **לוט** over the land; after all there was plenty of land for both of them. From this we concluded that it is not good to be with people who don’t behave well as they could influence us to do bad things. It is better to be in the presence of people who know how to do mitzvot and behave properly.

We concluded the Parsha by learning that Hashem promised the land of **כנען (ארץ ישראל)** to Avram and his family and their families ... and we are part of Avram’s family. That is why we are fighting for **ארץ ישראל** today. After all, the Torah teaches us that it is our country.

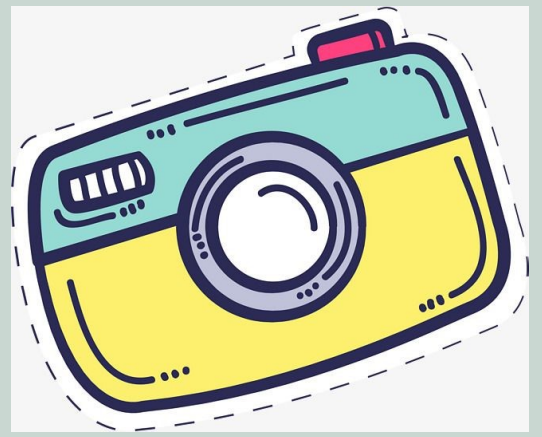
This week we also began a unit on our family and our **בית** and in the process of writing a book about the different members of our family and why they are so special. Additionally, we learned about our initials and we personalized our pocket books with them.

Finally, our classroom computers are up and running. The girls love the Waterford program that is loaded onto the computers. The girls wear headphones and enjoy manipulating the mouse and following the audio visual instructions. This program greatly enhances their math and science knowledge as well as their listening and comprehension skills. We try to open the computers at least twice a week, and your daughters know it is their turn when their photo appears on the screen.

Wishing you all a **שבת שלום**.

Morah Caroline
Morah Ahuva

Shulamith Snapshots



Commemorating Rachel Imenu!



Kinus Tehillim from Torah Umesorah





5th grade learning about Native Americans with Mrs. Pomerantz!



5th grade making ecosystems with Morah Amy!



IXL Winners!!



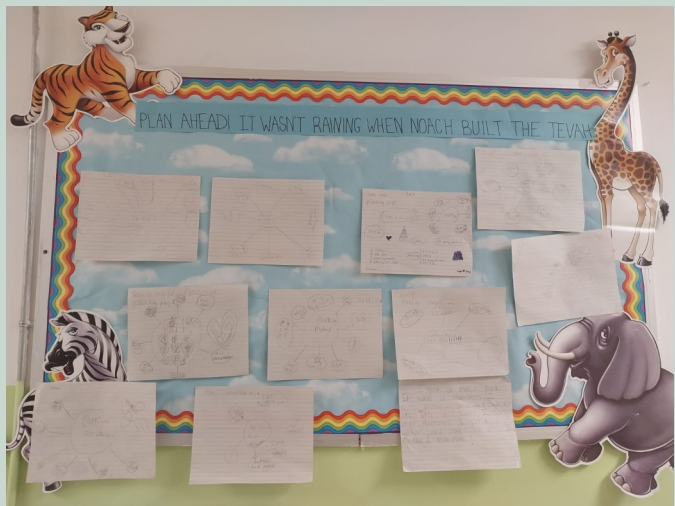
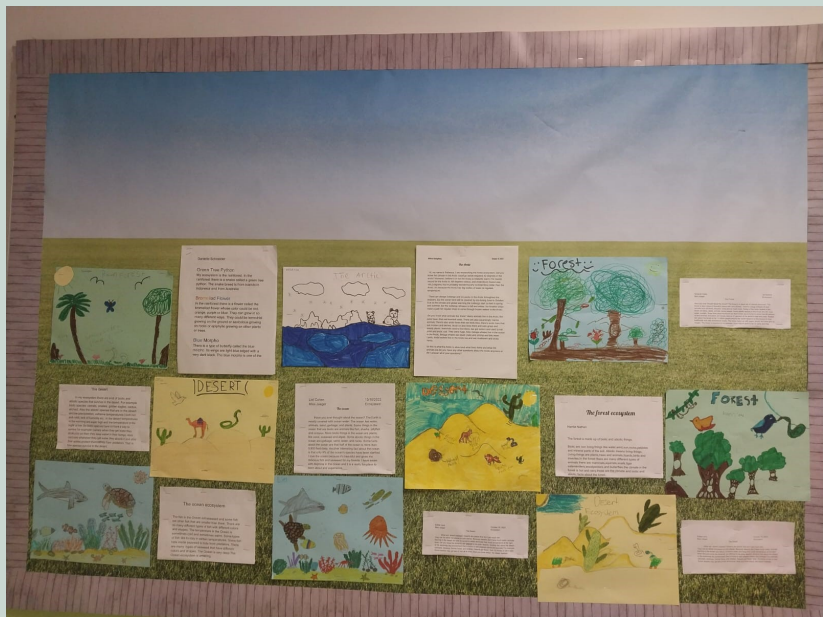
Kita alef enjoyed learning about the season of Stav with our new 'classmate' Shuli from Eretz Yisrael, Shuli only speaks and understands Ivrit. We each got to make our very own Shuli.



Mazal tov Kita Gimmel upon starting to learn Chumash! We had an uplifting experience with singing and dancing. We pray to Hashem that we should be zoche to taste the sweetness of the Torah HaKedosha.



Walking Through the Halls of Shulamith



1st mitzvah note on our mitzvah tree! We can't wait until it gets filled up!

Gym with Coach Ruchie!



Happy Birthday Dina Rosh!





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Please join us for a
package party

Marine Park Jewish Center 3311 Ave S, 11234
October 30th 2023 at 7pm

לזכר נשמת

Yitzchak Ben Baruch

Chana Michla Bat Zev Yitzchak

Moshe Aryeh Ben Baruch Yehuda halevi

Please bring a fully wrapped gift
valued at \$20 or more to be
auctioned off

Refuah Shelema:

Raina Brana Bat Gitel Pesha

Yechiel Victor Ben Shaba

Chava Daniella Bat Naomi Chana

Avraham Gavriel Ben Elana Tziporah

Azriella Fraida Bat Chana Michla

for any questions please call:

Randi Sina: 718-916-1287



irvin simon
PHOTOGRAPHERS

Picture Day!

Shulamith School for Girls of Brooklyn

Tuesday, October 31, 2023



1



Smile
it's Picture Day

2



Order
at [PictureDay.com](https://www.pictureday.com)
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weeks after Picture Day

3



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